

Bloomfield Record.

The Siamese Twins.

The Tribune of Jan. 24 contained the following correspondence relating to the sudden death of the Siamese Twins:

Dr. Joseph Hollingsworth, a physician resident at Mount Airy, Surrey County, about 65 miles from Greencastle, N. C., and a graduate of Jefferson College, 1847, since practicing in and around Mount Airy, arrived here this evening from his home, in order to consult Dr. William H. Panceast, Demonstrator of Anatomy in his Alma Mater, Prof. Samuel Gross, and other eminent physicians as to the death and future disposition of the celebrated Siamese twins, Chang and Eng, whose family physician he has been for 25 years at their home—or rather home, for they had two, three, and five miles respectively from Mount Airy. The correspondent of the Tribune had a long talk with him in the office of Dr. Panceast, who had on the first receipt of the news of the death of the twins, telegraphed through the Mayor, for permission to make a post-mortem examination for the benefit of science. Many of the current stories published in newspapers and encyclopedias are shown to be untrue by this physician, who has known these two singular beings most intimately for a quarter of a century. Of late years, owing originally to an estrangement between the twins, Chang and Eng, some partiality is shown to one over the other in matters of dress and jewelry, they have kept up separate establishments, or farms, two miles apart.

It was their unvarying custom to spend three days and a half of each week at each house. So unalterable was this custom that the funeral of a son on one occasion and the wedding of a daughter on another could not be attended by them because the ceremony was not at the right house. Thursday, Jan. 15, was the day for Chang to visit Eng's house. The former was the weaker of the two, having been paralyzed three years before on the right side, and ever since suffering from chronic pneumonia. On this night the extreme cold, the rough road, and an open carriage, conducted Chang into a severe attack of his affection of the throat, and he sent word to his wife next day, though better, he thought he would have died that night. On Friday night the twins slept in the second story of the house, having no one in the room but a little negro who said they got up after midnight and sat around the fire, Chang complaining very much of his throat. Eng wanted to go back to bed, but Chang said it hurt his breast too much to lie down. However, they did soon afterwards get bed, and nothing more was heard till toward daybreak, Eng was heard crying out for his son William, who slept in an upper room. When the family was aroused, after repeated calls from Eng, they found Chang dead, and Eng with the cold perspiration starting out from his face, pallid, and complaining of excessive cold in his feet, and asking them to pull and rub them. However, in about 1½ hours after the alarm had expired, all the symptoms of coming death being present.

During the interval they had sent for Dr. Hollingsworth, five miles away in the village, but before he could arrive death had come to both. The wife of Eng said that he was as heavy as ever he had been the night before, having eaten a substantial supper, and was in no wise apparently affected by his brother's indisposition. After the doctor arrived he found them both dead and observed no difference in their condition from that of ordinary corpses. He at once, with a due regard for the interests of his profession and science generally, took measures for the preservation of the bodies until the consent of the families of the deceased could be obtained to a post-mortem examination, and until medical men could have an opportunity to consult. As to the consent of the families the most strenuous objection comes from an invalid daughter in the last stages of consumption, and other members desire to hear from the distant sons of the deceased, one of whom is in California, and two in Missouri. The doctor with great forethought dissuaded them from burying the bodies in a neighboring church-yard and urged that it would be better to embalm or preserve them as long as possible. To do this he had a strong wooden box measuring in size with charcoal surrounding the bodies, and deposited the whole in the cellar of the dwelling-house where the cold weather will preserve the bodies at least two weeks.

Eng and Chang were born in Siam in 1811, and left there in 1829. After attracting marked attention in Europe they settled down in North Carolina, about 40 miles from Salisbury and kept stores a few years. They then moved to near Mt. Airy, and lived as farmers for 25 years. Owing to large number of slaves, they were wealthy, but since the war have consequently become reduced to moderate circumstances. They had a slight dialect showing foreign birth, but could not talk their mother tongue, having forgotten it. They said to the Doctor that they had intended in 1861, but for "this unfortunate war," to visit their home in Siam. They were Confederates, but did not go to the war. They would work themselves, oftentimes using the ex hoc.

The very latest thing in the advertising line is a lady who, through the newspapers, seeks for employment as an ornamental guest. She will assist at dinner or evening parties—by her grace, her wit and beauty contribute to the entertainment of guests, and she will do everything in the highest style of art—only she demands that a handsome compensation be made therefor.

New House.

The coincidence of a man's moving into a new house and dying soon after has frequently been a subject of remark, and there is an avoidable cause—the house is moved into before the walls and plaster and wood are sufficiently dried. Sometimes the cause of death is the poisonous character of the converging pipes. No water for drinking or cooking purposes should be used in a building supplied with new lead pipes, in whole or in part, for at least one month after the water has been used daily; this gives time for a protecting coating to form in the inner surface of the pipes, when the chemical change from contact with water generally ceases.

But the damp materials of the house have the most decided effect, especially on persons over forty years old or frail constitutions; whereas if the person were in the full vigor of life and health, not even an inconvenience would be experienced.

In building a new house, or on going to live in another locality where the water supply is not far from the house, it should be ascertained with the utmost certainty that the spring or well is higher than the privies or barnyards. Insidious and fatal forms of disease and typhoid very often result from persons drinking water which is drained from the facilities named.

The safest plan, and the only safe plan for furnishing dwellings with the most healthful and intoxicating water, is to have a watertight cistern, and let the water from the roof of the house or barn, or other outhouses, be conveyed into it, through a box of sand several yards long, this box to rest on a board, or cemented bottom and sides, so that no outside water could get into it.—Hall's Journal of Health.

McAdam author of McAdamized Roads, says: "Roads should be as flat as possible. Where a road is crooked, people will follow the middle of it, as they do when it is made quite convex, which is the only place where carriages can run upright, by which means three furrows are made by the horse and wheels, and the water continually stands there, and I think that more water actually stands upon a very convex road than upon one which is reasonably flat; a carriage moves freer, or with the least resistance, when the load lies evenly upon the wheels.

It reports the fastness for the ladies and the merchants for the men, and the markets for the particular attractions.

THE WEEKLY SUN is too widely known to require extended recommendation; but the reasons which have already given its fifty thousand subscribers, and which will give many thousands more, are well known to all. All the news of the day will be found in it, complete and always present in a clear, forcible, and interesting manner.

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